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March 3, 2010

Written Ex Parte Communication

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W. Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band*
WT Docket No. 02-55 and ET Docket Nos. 00-258 and 95-18

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The Commission directed Sprint Nextel to file timely reports in the above-referenced dockets "indicating whether any of the remaining markets to be relocated are not on schedule to be completed by the dates indicated in the Supplemental Request."¹ Sprint Nextel had projected the relocation of all Broadcast Auxiliary Systems (BAS) in the St. Louis, Missouri and the Missoula, Montana Designated Market Areas (DMAs) during February, 2010; however, technical installation difficulties and winter weather conditions in Montana require a new relocation date of March, 2010 for both markets.

In St. Louis, Missouri, the stations coordinated a new relocation date of March 4, 2010 to accommodate various unanticipated technical challenges that occurred during system installation. In Missoula, Montana, installation crews must snowshoe equipment and gear to the BAS sites and, once there, ascend ice-covered BAS towers. The Montana crews are making steady progress, but progress is slow because of the treacherous working conditions. The precise time of the Missoula relocation will depend upon the installers' ability to access and perform installation work at some of the remaining tower sites. Notwithstanding these challenges, the good faith estimate for completing the relocation of the Missoula, Montana DMA is also March, 2010.

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Harold K. McCombs
Sprint Nextel Corporation

cc: Julius Knapp, Geraldine Matise, Jamison Prime, Nicholas Oros, Stephen Buenzow

¹ *Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band*, Order, Para. 6, __ FCC Rcd. __, DA 10-235 (Released February 5, 2010).